

Amendments to the Claims:

1 (Canceled).

2 (Currently Amended). The manufacturing method for a liquid crystal display device according to Claim 4 ~~5~~, wherein the predetermined region is pressed in the bonding step.

3 (Currently Amended). The manufacturing method for a liquid crystal display device according to Claim 4 ~~or 2~~ 5, wherein the bonding step is carried out in an atmosphere of 2.7 k to 50 kPa.

4 (Canceled).

5 (Currently Amended). A manufacturing method for a liquid crystal display device, comprising the steps of:

applying a liquid crystal to a first substrate;

fixing the first substrate by a first vacuum chuck;

fixing a second substrate by a second vacuum chuck;

~~The manufacturing method for a liquid crystal display device according to Claim 4, wherein~~

the second vacuum chuck ~~comprises~~ comprising a plurality of retaining regions on a chuck surface thereof, the plurality of retaining regions being capable of performing mutually independent retaining operations and being disposed outward from the center of the chuck surface, and

bonding a second substrate to a surface of the first substrate to which the liquid crystal has been applied,

the retaining operations of the plurality of retaining regions ~~are being~~ stopped in order outward from the center in the bonding step,

wherein a predetermined region of the second substrate is bonded to the first substrate, and the bonded region is expanded with the elapse of time.

6 (Currently Amended). The manufacturing method for a liquid crystal display device according to Claim 4 5, wherein the second vacuum chuck further comprises a holder that presses the second substrate, and the predetermined region is pressed by the holder in the bonding step.

7 through 10 (Canceled).

JP920020223US1

3